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News

19th Annual Daughter's Day event draws more than 60 participants

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TORRINGTON — More than 60 young women and mentors participated in the 19th Annual Daughter's Day Thursday.

The event is put on each year by the Litchfield County Women's Network, and offers girls in eighth grade the opportunity to interact with several adult female mentors throughout the day.

"We need to show the girls that there are strong role models in the community for these girls to use as examples," LCWN president Chana Monahan said. "These girls are our future, so why not show them what they can be in life."

Girls from Torrington Middle School, Region 7 and St. Anthony's School participated in the event along with more than 30 area women who are local business leaders and professionals.

Daughter's Day was started in 1993 by Susan Carroll in an effort to give young girls a chance to meet community mentors.

"It is a great way for these girls to see women in the community that are professionals," Jessica Hodorski, Program Coordinator for the Torrington Library.

Hodorski was one of the adult mentors who moved from table to table at the Elks Lodge on Thursday speaking with groups of about 6 girls at a time.

"This is my fourth year doing this and I love it," Hodorski said. "These girls are great, and they really listen to what we have to say."

The event also featured guest speaker, Karen Hinds. Hinds is the founder and CEO of Workplace Success Group. The company is an employee development firm that helps increase the personal effectiveness of emerging talent. In 2008, Hinds won the Micro to Millions business award.

While the program involves mostly students in Torrington and region 7 school systems, Monahan said she hopes the program can expand into other towns in Litchfield County.

"We have had requests for our program template to be taken to other towns," she said. "It is truly a wonderful program for our young ladies. The program so far has made it into Cornwall, and hopefully other towns and communities will see the benefit in it."

"We want to show these girls that high school isn't the end of your life," Hodorski joked. "When the girls see women who have succeeded, it hopefully can encourage them and let them know they can do anything they put their mind too."

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